

friends. He was in the seventy-sixth year of his age.

Mr. Hamilton's professional abilities were of the first order; and in private life, he was distinguished for the singular amiability of his character, the unaffected modesty of his disposition, the vivacity of his conversation, enlivened as it often was by anecdotes of the olden time, and for his genuine worth of heart, disinterestedness, and nice sense of honour. With the national sin of 'mammon worship' he was in no way tainted. Had he cared more for money, he must have died rich. His professional charges were considerably below what his distinguished merits entitled him to claim, and his purse was always open to assist the needy and unfortunate. It is doubtful whether he has left an enemy behind him, or whether indeed he ever had one. Certainly, few men had more attached friends or were more warm in their friendships. By his professional brethren he was much esteemed; and jealousy or unworthy rivalry had, it is believed, no place in their intercourse. He has passed from the scene of his earthly labours; but he has bequeathed to all who knew him the memory of a good example—be survivor in the affections of his friends—and the numerous splendid works he has left behind may be regarded as so many monuments commemorative of his genius.

The number of elegant or splendid structures designed by Mr. Hamilton, particularly in the West of Scotland, is very great. Independently of Hamilton Palace, the princely seat of the Duke of Hamilton, which is enough of itself to stamp his reputation as a great architect, he produced the splendid Royal Exchange of Glasgow; the Western Club-house; the British Linen, the Glasgow and Ship, and other magnificent banks; Toward Castle, the seat of the late Kirkman Finlay, Esq.; Dunlop House, Ayrshire, the seat of Sir John Dunlop, Bart.; the elegant structure of Lennox Castle, the residence of John Kincaid, Esq., of Kincaid, so much admired by all professional men; and numerous other buildings, remarkable for their taste and effect. Mr. Hamilton was also a competitor for the New Houses of Parliament; and although his design was not adopted, it was so highly esteemed by the government that it was rewarded with a prize of 500*l*. In this competition he was the only Scotch architect who was successful, although several of them sent in two or three different sets of plans, while he submitted only one. In July 1840, Mr. Hamilton was entertained at a public dinner in this city, when he was presented with an elegant service of plate, together with a considerable sum of money, enclosed in a gold box, a distinguished proof of the estimation in which he was held by his fellow-citizens. Mr. Hamilton is succeeded in business by his son, who possesses, we believe, much of his father's fine architectural taste and talents."

[Since the above was in type, we have been favoured with the following more detailed sketch of Mr. Hamilton's professional career, from the pen of one of his former pupils, and a successful follower in his footsteps.]

"It would have given us great pleasure to have had time to collect materials sufficient to enable us to give a more lengthened memoir of Mr. Hamilton, than we can at present lay before our readers; for of few of her men of genius was Glasgow more proud than of him, who is this day to become a tenant of the grave.

"It is now more than half a century since he commenced his professional career as an architect in his native city. Tutored at first in an important department of the constructive art, he early displayed a fondness and taste for a higher and more refined exercise of his abilities. Self-taught, he prosecuted with the most untiring assiduity the profession towards which the bent of his genius naturally led him; and by his perseverance and talents he soon reached that eminence which he continued to sustain during a long and useful career.

"His was a mind which could not remain satisfied with one triumph; drinking deep of the wells unfed of the architecture of Greece and Rome, in every new effort he marked the progress of his mind, and snatched a grace beyond the reach of art."

"Nor was it merely the first design which emerged from the pencil of his fertile mind,

the most minute details were all considered by him, so many expressions of the design, and received the most careful study. This, indeed, forms a prominent part of Mr. Hamilton's excellence, and doubtless the attention to detail exhibited in his various works has been greatly influential in improving the architectural taste of our own city. Although he certainly yielded to Grecian art a greater reverence, yet there never was any mannerism in his works. Whatever style he adopted received from his hands the most perfect embodiments, and a grace all his own.

"Among the numerous works in Glasgow and the surrounding country, so many monuments to his fame which he has left behind, we can only particularize a few. And beyond all doubt the princely Palace of Hamilton ranks the foremost. Not only in regard to its magnitude does it claim this superiority. The dignity and gracefulness of the whole structure; the commanding features of the grand facade, with its magnificent portico; the careful arrangement of every detail; the general effect and the most minute parts; the adaptation to an earlier structure; and the well-arranged descent from the more correct and chaste architecture of the new to the olden and less classical features of the previously existing fabric, give to this ducal palace an importance in the architecture of our country, honourable alike to the princely munificence and correct judgment of the noble duke, and the skill and taste of our talented townsman.

"We cannot but allude to the pride of our city, the Royal Exchange. Mr. H. in his greatest works seems to have been trammelled by some old fabric, which interfered with the proper expanse of his talents. And yet, in regard to the Royal Exchange, fettered as he was by the old house, he surmounted these difficulties, and produced a work of which every citizen of Glasgow may be proud. Its noble portico and beautiful campanile and its gorgeous hall, graced with the most correct detail, fully entitle this splendid edifice to hold the second rank in the monuments of Mr. Hamilton's fame.

"In regard to many of his churches, hospitals, schools, banks, and private edifices, Glasgow is largely indebted to him. In almost every portion of the city, he has left traces of his master-hand; we have but to look around us to see his monuments.

"We cannot fail, however, to notice the buildings of the British Linen Bank and the Western Club, which are conspicuous for their palatial dignity and richness. They mark an era in the improvement of our street architecture, and contribute largely to the adornment of the city.

"Of the castellated and manorial residences which Mr. Hamilton has designed, we would especially refer to Toward Castle, which in the grouping of its various parts has been so much admired; to Dunlop House, a beautiful application of the Scottish manorial style; and to Lennox Castle, one of the finest seats in the west of Scotland. In this most effective structure, which in the mass and the details has been so successfully worked out, we have an example of the adaptation of the Norman style of architecture to a modern mansion; the combination of all the necessary requirements of an advanced state of civilization with the rude magnificence of an earlier age.

"In the coast and country villas, which are dotted here and there in endless variety, Mr. Hamilton has shown at once the sportive, picturesque, and highly imaginative play of his truly poetical fancy.

"Nor is it to be forgotten, and it is most creditable to Scotland, that Mr. Hamilton alone, of all the competitors out of the metropolis, was adjudged worthy of one of the government premiums awarded to the best designs for that national structure, the new Houses of Parliament.

"Mr. Hamilton was born in Glasgow on the 11th May 1768."

At the annual election on St. Andrew's day of office bearers of the grand lodge of Scotland, William Barr, Esq., was appointed architect.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL.—The foundation stone of this magnificent building was laid June 30, 1836, by John Evelyn (the treasurer), with a select committee of the commissioners, and Sir Christopher Wren, the architect, precisely at five in the evening, after three hundred years!

## ROYAL ACADEMY.

On Saturday last, being the 75th anniversary from the foundation of the Academy, a general assembly of the Academicians was held at their apartments in Trafalgar-square, for the annual election of officers and other business, amongst which was the ceremony of delivering the prizes to the successful candidates in the various classes of students. The distribution took place in the grand saloon of the Academy, before a very numerous assemblage of Royal Academicians, artists, and persons of distinction, amongst whom were his honour the Vice-Chancellor, Sir R. H. Inglis, Bart., M.P.; Sir Stephen L. Hammett, Bart.; the Rev. Sir H. Dukesfield, Bart.; the Right Hon. Sir Edmund Ryan; Sir Richard Westmacott, R.A.; Sir John Rennie; Sir H. Ellis; Sir W. Ross, R.A.; Messrs. M. Faraday, C. König; Richard Partridge; T. Cooke; C. Babbage; C. L. Eastlake, R.A.; H. Hallam; Samuel Colly; William Eddy, R.A.; A. Cooper, R.A.; C. L. Cockerell, R.A.; C. Stansfield, R.A.; R. Collins, R.A.; B. Bond Cabell; Brassey Cooper; B. Anstie; P. Hardwick; S. Hardwick; S. A. Hart; W. Turner; C. Leslie, &c.; but the President was absent, and, on inquiry, it was ascertained that he had been suddenly attacked by illness that day, and, although the symptoms were not of a dangerous nature, yet it rendered him incompetent to perform the duties of the evening.

Mr. Jones, R.A., (the Keeper of the Academy) took the President's chair, and announced officially and with great regret the cause of their accomplished President's absence, which he truly stated they all felt as a great disappointment, but the cause of which he could assure them would not be of long duration. Of course, it fell to his lot as the senior officer to go through the duties of the evening, however unprepared he might be for that purpose. The prizes were few or this year than on any former biennial distribution, for there was not a single candidate in the first class (historical painting). This incident had, doubtless, arisen from the exertions to get up the cartoons having occupied the time of those who were in a condition to compete for these prizes. The chairman then bestowed the prizes on the following students:—

To Mr. E. Bowring Stephens, for the best composition in sculpture—The gold medal, and the Discourses of the President Reynolds and West.

To Mr. Henry Barry Garding, for the best architectural design—The gold medal, and the Discourses of the President (as above).

To Mr. J. Harwood, for the best copy made in the School of Painting—The silver medal, with the Lectures of the Professors Barry, Opie, and Fuseli.

To Mr. A. Ranckley, for the next best copy made in the Painting School—The silver medal, but this student having received a similar medal in 1842, this medal, though adjudged to him, could not be given.

To Mr. Abraham Solomon, for the best drawing from the living models—The silver medal. There was only one medal given in the class this time.

To Mr. George Perry, for a drawing of the west wing of Greenwich Hospital—The silver medal.

To Mr. John Everett Millais, for the best drawing from the antique—The silver medal and the Lectures of Professors Opie and Fuseli.

To Mr. G. Ellenborough Sinterich for the next best drawing from the antique—The silver medal.

To Mr. Joseph Engel, for the best model from the antique—The silver medal, and the Lectures of the Professors Opie and Fuseli.

To Mr. Alfred Gallely, for the next best model from the antique, the silver medal was adjudged, but not bestowed, as he had already (in 1842) received a similar medal.

To Mr. William Thomas, for the next best model from the antique—The silver medal.

On the audience retiring, the Academicians proceeded to the election of officers, &c., for the ensuing year, according to the following rotation, when Sir Martin Archer Shee was unanimously re-elected President.

Council.—New List.—Sir William Charles Ross, Sir Augustus W. Calcott, Mr. Clarkson Stanfield, and Mr. Charles Robert Leslie. Old List.—Mr. Charles Barry, Mr. George